



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
OFFICE OF TRIBAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS  
WASHINGTON DC 20420

June 13, 2012

Dear Tribal Leader:

During April 9-10, 2012, we hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> OTGR Western Region Meeting, which was held at the Northern Quest Resort & Casino in Spokane, WA, hosted by the Kalispel and Suquamish Tribes. We had over 106 attendees with 23 tribal entities represented.

We are excited the Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Tribal Government Relations will host our **2<sup>nd</sup> OTGR Western Region Training Meeting** scheduled for **July 10-11, 2012** at Spirit Mountain Casino hosted by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. Please see the "draft" agenda enclosed. If there are any specific topics you would like covered at this event, please email Terry Bentley, Tribal Government Relations Specialist for the Western Region at [terry.bentley@va.gov](mailto:terry.bentley@va.gov).

The target audience for this event is Tribal Leaders, Tribal Veterans Representatives, Health Directors, Tribal Veterans and those who serve or care for Veterans in Indian Country. The summit provides an opportunity to interact with and hear updates from VA leadership and subject matter experts, share best practices and network with others who are serving Veterans in Indian Country.

Rooms can be reserved by calling the Spirit Mountain Casino at 1-800-760-7977, \$69.00 for deluxe room. Rooms are reserved under: Veterans Regional Conference and their website is: <http://spiritmountain.com>. No hotel shuttle transportation is available from the airport (Portland International Airport). It is approximately a 1 hour and 45 minute drive from the airport.

For more information about the VA Office of Tribal Government Relations, please visit our website at: [www.va.gov/tribalgovernment](http://www.va.gov/tribalgovernment). It is our sincere honor to have this opportunity to facilitate discussions focused on meeting the needs of our American Indian and Alaska Native Veterans. We hope to see you in Grand Ronde, Oregon.

Respectfully,  


Stephanie E. Birdwell, M.S.W.  
Director, Office of Tribal Government Relations

Enclosure